

Global Diagram 4. World Christian trends across 22 centuries, AD 30–AD 2200, illustrated by 26 statistical categories, 10 annual growth rates (p.a.) and 7 graphed lines.

The starting point on this subject is this definition: 'A trend is a definite, predictable direction or sequence of events, like the warming of the Earth's climate' (G. Calente, *Trend tracking*, 1990:3). The data on this sheet summarize the large volume of information in Table BB (on the next page), and later in the 16-page Graph 7-2/Table 7-2. To understand further the concept 'trend' (or 'trends'), this survey recognizes 13 different usages or definitions or types, labeled A to M as follows (and elaborated on and enumerated in Part 7 "GeoTrends").

NON-NUMERIC DEFINITIONS (using words only)

The first 3 populist usages avoid numbers and instead make generalized statements based on historical events and developments.

Trend A. A trend is the **general direction** of any irregular or winding phenomenon. Thus the line 'Christians' in Table A below shows a trend of rapid increase, despite one period of massive decline in the 14th century.

Trend B. 'Trend' is however often used to describe the current **status** of any significant issue, the past being less significant or satisfactory (Example: 'The global population explosion has today slowed markedly due to family planning programs worldwide'.)

Trend C. Many users consider mention of a lengthy **time period** (e.g. a decade or a century) to be essential to the con-

cept. **Trend D.** Short **descriptive sentences** one after another can often illuminate a trend. This is done overleaf in Table BB, columns 2 and 4.

NUMERIC DEFINITIONS (using numbers and words)

Calculating evidence from numbers introduces a whole new arena of clarity and explanation.

Trend E. **Measurement** using existing methods (especially, as below, measurement of number of Christians) brings precision to the usage.

Trend F. New ventures in **quantification** in time and space are always possible if the category can be precisely defined. (Example: figures for Worlds A and B in Table A below).

Trend G. **Statistics at 2 points in time** are essential. Table A below has 21 exact time periods with numbers at beginning and end of each.

Trend H. **Graphic measures** visualize the trends, challenge the compilers to spot and explain divergences or sudden changes, and thus help to bring out their significance. (See Graph A, below: for a larger, more detailed version, see Graph 7-1). Note that the special value of the semilogarithmic grid employed is that the vertical scale can place very large numbers and very small numbers on the same piece of paper or computer screen.

Trend I. **Linear rates** joining 2 points in time by a straight line are the easiest and quickest results to obtain. They can be worked out in one's head or at least with pencil and paper.

Trend J. **Exponential growth rates.** More accurate is this method ('compound interest'). In Table A below, these rates appear 4 times (% p.a. for globe, World C, World B, World A). They also appear in Table BB as column 10. It is important to note that the exact value of any rate at a specific year varies if the period back to the previous date is changed. This explains why rates at certain dates in Table 7-1 differ slightly from rates at the same date in Table 7-2, because the preceding period is different.

Trend K. **Yearly increase.** Derived from growth rate % p.a. (per annum), over 100, times population (or Worlds C, B, A). See the 10 lines marked 'p.a.' below (or, Table BB column 8).

Trend L. **Daily increase.** In Table BB, column 9 = column 8 ÷ 365, a valuable microanalytical tool measuring average increase of persons per day. **Trend M.** **Other related variables.** Analytical numbers such as 'Outreach per Christian' (the ratio of evangelized non-Christians ('World B') divided by Christians; see Table BB column 6) can be illuminating. Still other variables, as with 'Martyrs' in Table BB overleaf are not derived from previous statistics described above but they help visualize the main trend itself.

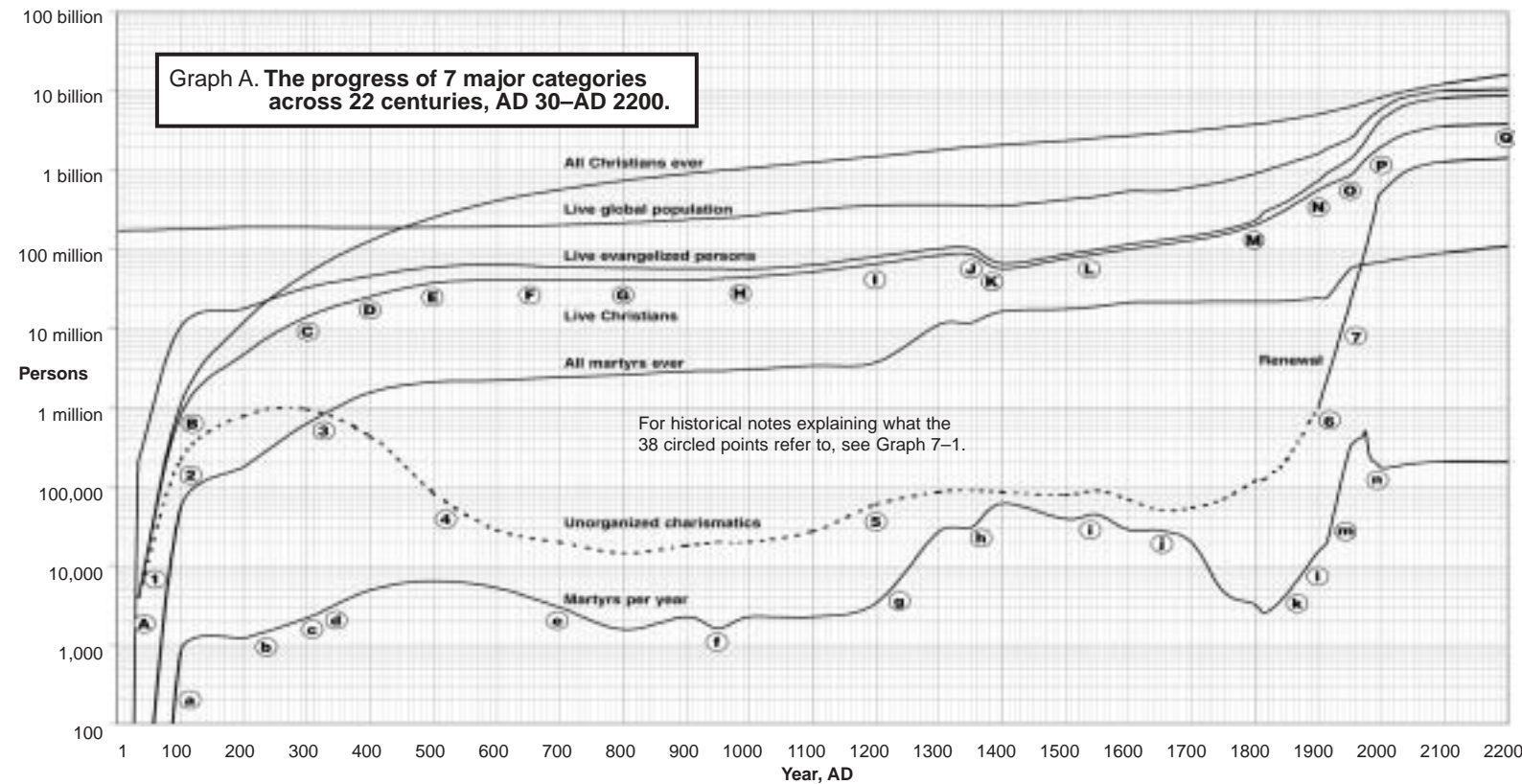


Table A. Global trends for 26 statistical categories, AD 33–AD 2200.

Area	Year, AD	33	100	300	500	800	1000	1200	1350	1500	1650	1750	1800	1850	1900	1970	1990	1995	2000	2025	2050	2100	2200
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
GLOBE (238 countries in 2000)																							
Population, m(=millions)	170.66	179.51	191.93	190.32	217.92	263.65	357.44	361.04	422.95	546.66	719.19	903.65	1,202.87	1,619.63	3,696.15	5,266.44	5,666.36	6,055.05	7,823.70	8,909.10	10,109.28	10,561.48	
Growth rate, % p.a.	0.08	0.08	0.03	0.00	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.01	0.11	0.17	0.27	0.46	0.57	0.60	1.19	1.79	1.47	1.34	1.03	0.52	0.25	0.04	
Increase p.a., m	0.13	0.14	0.06	-0.01	0.10	0.25	0.54	0.02	0.45	0.94	1.98	4.14	6.90	9.67	43.82	94.06	83.56	80.88	80.61	46.42	25.58	4.62	
Evangelized persons, m	0.21	10.60	32.82	59.40	57.53	56.17	81.31	103.17	86.75	129.76	174.96	229.31	401.24	739.95	2,054.90	3,600.97	3,988.16	4,425.67	5,978.30	7,103.04	8,250.11	8,792.81	
Evangelized persons %	0.12	5.90	17.10	31.21	26.40	21.30	22.75	28.58	20.51	23.74	24.33	25.38	33.36	45.69	55.60	68.38	70.38	73.09	76.41	79.73	81.61	83.25	
Outreach per Christian	20.00	12.25	1.34	0.57	0.41	0.26	0.24	0.19	0.14	0.15	0.13	0.12	0.24	0.33	0.66	1.06	1.12	1.21	1.28	1.33	1.30	1.29	
Christians, m	0.01	0.80	14.01	37.80	40.87	44.67	65.71	86.47	75.89	112.84	154.69	204.98	323.86	558.13	1,236.37	1,747.46	1,877.43	1,999.56	2,616.67	3,051.56	3,583.02	3,843.54	
Orthodox, m	0.00	0.61	8.90	24.48	24.44	23.99	29.07	35.06	25.87	33.18	45.01	55.22	75.46	115.84	139.66	203.77	209.62	215.13	252.72	266.81	278.12	292.97	
Roman Catholics, m	0.01	0.17	4.91	12.72	15.93	18.88	33.24	47.26	44.83	60.10	82.39	106.43	163.20	266.55	665.95	929.70	994.15	1,057.33	1,361.97	1,564.60	1,695.10	1,849.70	
Anglicans, m	0.00	0.01	0.20	0.60	0.50	1.80	3.40	4.15	5.18	4.84	6.20	11.91	21.85	30.57	47.50	68.20	74.52	79.65	113.75	145.98	167.81	194.59	
Protestants, m	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	14.69	21.02	30.98	60.86	103.02	210.76	296.35	319.68	342.00	468.63	574.42	643.38	725.79	
Independents, m	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.06	0.40	2.14	7.93	95.60	301.54	346.54	385.75	385.75	581.64	752.84	861.56	989.95	
Marginal Christians, m	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.35	0.93	11.10	21.83	23.85	26.06	45.55	62.20	73.25	81.61	83.25	
Christians %	0.01	0.45	7.30	19.86	18.75	16.94	18.38	23.95	17.94	20.64	21.51	22.68	26.92	34.46	33.45	33.18	33.13	33.02	33.45	34.25	35.44	36.39	
Christian growth rate, % p.a.	0.00	13.18	1.44	0.50	0.03	0.04	0.19	0.18	-0.09	0.26	0.32	0.56	0.92	1.09	1.14	1.74	1.45	1.27	1.08	0.62	0.32	0.07	
Christian net increase p.a., m	0.00	0.11	0.20	0.19	0.01	0.02	0.13	0.16	-0.07	0.30	0.49	1.16	2.98	6.11	14.13	30.49	27.13	25.37	28.30	18.83	11.52	2.70	
Gains: births + converts, m	0.00	0.08	0.79	1.78	1.74	1.92	2.94	3.85	2.96	3.96	4.87	6.42	9.71	16.13	41.23	63.47	55.27	55.11	66.05	63.85	66.76	68.39	
Losses: deaths+defectors, m	0.00	0.03	0.58	1.58	1.71	1.88	2.79	3.68	2.95	3.46	4.34	5.17	6.42	9.53	20.70	26.15	27.55	29.20	35.07	43.20	54.56	65.60	
World B, m	0.20	9.80	18.81	21.60	16.66	11.50	15.60	16.70	10.86	16.92	20.27	24.33	77.38	181.82	818.53	1,853.51	2,110.73	2,426.11	3,361.63	4,051.48	4,667.10	4,949.27	
World B %	0.12	5.46	9.80	11.35	7.65	4.36	4.36	4.63	2.57	3.10	2.82	2.69	6.43	11.23	22.15	35.19	37.25	40.07	42.97	45.48	46.17	46.86	
World B growth rate, % p.a.	27.91	5.98	0.33	0.07	-0.09	-0.19	0.15	0.05	-0.29	0.30	0.18	0.37	2.34	1.72	2.17	4.17	2.63	2.82	1.31	0.75	0.28	0.06	
World B increase p.a., m	0.03	0.33	0.03	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.15	0.19	0.48	1.47	0.98	1.13	1.13	0.56	0.34	0.13	0.03	
World A, m	170.45	168.91	159.11	130.92	160.39	207.48	276.13	257.87	336.20	416.90	544.23	674.35	801.63	879.67	1,641.25	1,665.47	1,678.20	1,629.37	1,845.41	1,806.05	1,859.17	1,768.67	
World A %	99.88	94.10	82.90	68.79	73.60	78.70	77.25	71.42	79.49	76.26	75.67	74.62	66.64	54.31	44.40	31.62	29.62	26.91	23.59	20.27	18.39	16.75	
World A growth rate, % p.a.	0.08	-0.01	-0.03	-0.10	0.07	0.13	0.14	-0.05	0.18	0.14	0.27	0.43	0.35	0.19	0.89	0.07	0.15	-0.59	0.50	-0.09	0.06	-0.05	
World A increase p.a., m	0.13	-0.02	-0.05	-0.13	0.11	0.27	0.39	-0.12	0.60	0.60	1.45	2.90	2.78	1.64	14.69	1.22	2.56	-9.59	9.21	-1.56	1.08	-0.88	